



PATENT
Customer No. 22,852
Attorney Docket No. 8442.0002.02

#6
P. Amato
S. Buyer
7/16/03

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Joseph C. CAUTHEN

Application No.: 10/075,615

Filed: February 15, 2002

For: SPINAL DISC ANNULUS
RECONSTRUCTION METHOD AND
SPINAL DISC ANNULUS STENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Group Art Unit: 3738

Examiner: Chattopadhyay

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JUL 01 2003

TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

Sir:

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Prior to the examination of the above application, please amend this
application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 1-20 and add claims 21-22 without prejudice.

1. (Amended) The therapeutic or prophylactic device of claim 21
further comprising an elongated centralized vertical extension, said
centralized vertical extension comprising a left and a right lateral
extension along said centralized vertical extension's horizontal axis.

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